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VOLUME



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The History of

The Stars and Stripes

Official Newspaper of The American Expeditionary Forces in France

> From February 8, 1918 to June 13, 1919



The Columbia Publishing Company Washington, D. C.

Copyright, 1921 by HARRY L. KATZ It has been remarked that The A:EF: was one of the most sentimental outfits in history. It might also be remarked that it was one of the most businesslike. Besides putting an end to the Kaiser's hopes of victory in a manner that could not be said to lack in decision and finality the A. E. F. has to its credit several other accomplishments which deserve honorable mention, notable among which was THE STARS AND STRIPES.

Born of the necessity of modern warfare THE STARS AND STRIPES, managed, written, published and distributed entirely by members of The A. E. F., came into existence unheralded and unadvertised, and when its work was done was quietly mustered out. However, the paper, with its inspirations, its optimistic character, and the rôle of companion to homesick hearts which it played in France will live forever in the tender memories of the men who won the war while they read it.

The service it rendered the country in keeping at its high standard the morale of our forces in France cannot be overestimated. Its effectiveness as a real weapon of warfare was appreciated by all the Allies and realized fully by the enemy. The attempts of the Germans to discredit THE STARS AND STRIFES among American soldiers was an indication of its value.

The press of this country commented on THE STARS AND STRIFES editorially on numerous occasions. The New York World called it "the most successful infant phenomenon in newspaper history."

The Chicago Post said: "To establish a newspaper in a foreign land, carry it on for sixteen months in war time and then wind up the business with a profit of \$700,000 is—we submit—a world breaking record. There was no better, more useful, more wisely directed enterprise of all the many things America did in France than THE STARS AND STRIFES."

The Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegram said: "The triumph of THE STARS AND STRIPES was the way in which it upheld the enlisted man's viewpoint, and as the A. E. F. is getting home, there are few things of France that many men will miss more than their official newspaper."

Therein lies the success of THE STARS AND STRIPES. Its editors were fearless, truthful, humorous, sympathetic, and in perfect accord with its readers, because they were of the same class, and felt, lived and moved, in the same atmosphere and under the same conditions.

To the men who helped produce the paper it became the one big thing in their lives at that time. All of their efforts were bent on making it the great success which it became and when it was finally folded away and passed into history as another great achievement of America they still remembered it with kindness. The readers of THE STARS AND STRIPES in France are still enthusiastic in their praise of the paper, and refer to it as the "grand old paper," "the dear old sheet," and in other terms which leave their unqualified endorsement and their undying appreciation of it in no doubt.

This little book is presented by one of the men who helped in the work of making THE STARS AND STRIPES a success; who was vitally interested in it, and whose interest is such that he feels that it should not be forgotten, folded and laid away with other mementoes of the great struggle—and so blended with the general impressions of the past that future generations will not recognize it except as referred to by those historians who choose to go further into detail than their more concise contemporaries. It is presented to the reader for his consideration, and with the earnest hope that it will find a place among his treasures of wartime days.



 U_{γ} S_{γ} Official

PRESIDENT WILSON'S WAR ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS TO THE A. E. F.

TO THE STARS AND STRIPES:

Please convey to the officers and men of our Expeditionary Force my warmest greetings on this, the anniversary of the entrance of the United States into this great war for Liberty, and say to them that we all not only have greatly admired and been very proud of the way they have so far accounted for themselves but have the utmost confidence that in every test they will prove to be made of the finest mettle of free men.

(Signed) Woodrow Wilson.

INTRODUCTION

THE STARS AND STRIPES was the name by which the official news organ of The American Expeditionary Force in France was known. This paper, the purpose of which was to upbuild the morale of the American soldier, fighting in a foreign land thousands of miles away from home, and to give him something that made home seem nearer, was entirely free of any propaganda. Its editorial staff, made up of enlisted men of the Army, enjoyed a free hand in framing the policy of the paper and making it acceptable both to the enlisted men and to the officials administering the affairs of the United States in France. Its success was due to the spirit in which it was written and the enthusiastic support given it by the men for whose benefit it was published.

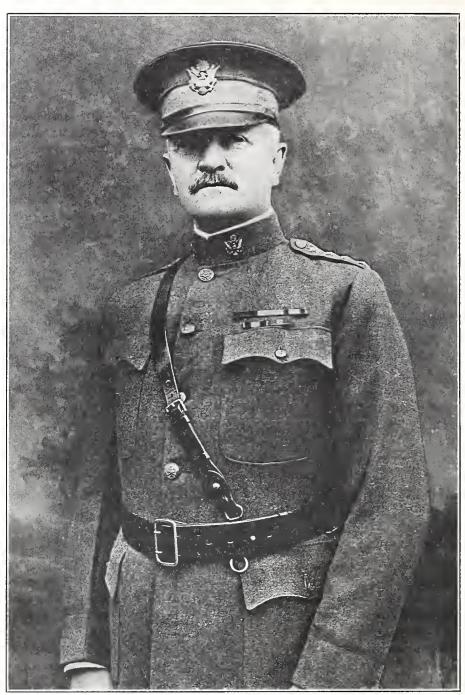
The Stars and Stripes was published from February 8, 1918 to June 13, 1919, appearing every week on Friday. It was written, managed, and distributed entirely by enlisted men, and officers were in charge only of the finances and in command of the men on detached service with the paper.

The paper was in eight pages of seven columns each. At its head appeared a distinctive cut over a coat of arms and two American flags with crossed masts. Its make-up was perfect from a newspaper viewpoint, as all the men engaged in its publication were experienced newspapermen. It ran a regular sporting page; an editorial page of unusual interest; a column devoted to poctry born in the A. E. F.; articles, humorous, learned, and current by soldiers; cartoons drawn by its readers, and by a regular staff of artists: published serially the histories of all combat divisions of the American Army; reproduced anything of special soldier interest which appeared in American newspapers, and in general made its columns valuable and interesting to the class of readers it served. What more can be said of any newspaper?

A history of The Stars and Stripes would be dry and uninteresting if only statistics were presented. In the history which follows it has been the effort of the writer to present a true historical account of the paper from the time of its inception to the date of its last issue. If anything has been omitted it has been for the reason that in such a short story of the greatest journalistic achievement of modern times it has been impossible to find the space for it.

The first office of the paper in Paris was in a small hall bedroom in the Hotel Sainte-Anne, at 10 Rue Ste-Anne. The staff at that time was composed of five men, Capt. Viskniskki, Licut. Cushing, Licut. Michael, Pvt. Hawley, and Pvt. Wallgren. While the members of the editorial staff wrote their stories in the bedroom office, the treasurer counted the few francs that were coming in from the sale of the first issues in the cafe downstairs, while Wallgren drew the cartoons on a beer table nearby.

Issue Number Six of The Stars and Stripes found the staff more comfortably located in offices at 1 Rue des Italiens. The paper had two floors of the building, with office space sufficient for all the work necessary at that time. Issue Number Forty-four appeared from the office which was the final home of The Stars and Stripes in France, at 32 Rue Taitbout, over the offices of the American Chamber of Commerce. These quarters were the most commodious ever occupied, and were made necessary by the rapid growth of the paper. All of the space was on one floor which made liaison between the different departments easy.



U. S. Official

"A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHIEF"

In this initial number of The Stars and Stripes published by the men of the Overseas Command, The Commander-in-Chief of the American Expeditionary Forces extends his greetings through the editing staff to the readers from the first line trenches to the base ports.

These readers are mainly the men who have been honored by being the first contingent of Americans to fight on European soil for the honor of their country. It is an honor and privilege which makes them fortunate above the millions of their fellow citizens at home. Commensurate with their privilege in being here, is the duty which is laid before them, and this duty will be performed by them as by Americans of the past, eager, determinate, and unyielding to the last.

The paper, written by the men in the service, should speak the thoughts of the new American Army and American people from whom the Army has been drawn. It is your paper.

Good luck to it.

(Signed) John J. Pershing, Commander-in-Chief, A. E. F.

The Origin of The Stars and Stripes

JUST who originated the idea of publishing the official newspaper of the A. E. F. is a mooted question, for versions differ to this day, even among the members of the editorial staff, who ought to know. The General Staff never declared itself on this important question, nor has any official statement ever been issued on this point, which incidentally ought to be settled in the interest of historical accuracy.

In the anniversary number, printed under stress, credit for originating the paper was given to Major Guy T. Viskniskki, its first editor, who back in the United States was connected with the Wheeler Syndicate of New York. "It is certainly true that the Stars AND STRIPES—its purpose, its policy and its very name—was proposed and put through by Guy T. Viskniskki," the paper stated, who was described as second lieutenant, detached from the 80th Division and serving as censor at American Field Press Headquarters, Neufchateau.

Another version, and one inclined to by certain members of the staff, was that the paper was the creation of the General Staff at Chaumont and that Viskniskki knew nothing of the plan until he was ordered to France for special duty overseas and reported at Chaumont.

Certain it is that way back in the dark days of November, 1917, when less than one hundred thousand troops were in the throes of an everlasting training, the need of an Army paper was recognized by the Headquarters Staff, and it is understood that General James J. Harbord, first Chief of Staff, and General Denis E. Nolan, Chief of Intelligence, actively sponsored the plan. The paper must necessarily be an agency for morale, the word went out, and the expense was not to be considered for a moment.

The actual planning of the paper developed upon Colonel Walter E. Sweeney, Chief of G-2-D, who in turn entrusted the details of organization to Major Frederick Palmer, the well-known war correspondent in charge of the press section at Neufchateau, and Major Mark S. Watson, then second lieutenant and Headquarters Chief of the Press Section in

Chaumont.

Palmer knew of Viskniskki's success in pubishing the Bayonet, one of the first Army newspapers in the United States, and he was ultimately selected to be first editor of the new paper, which incidentally was decided to be known as The Stars and Stripes.

Viskniskki's task of organizing the newspaper personnel called for resource and energy, qualities he possessed in a remarkable degree. He knew of Hudson Hawley, formerly with the New York Sun, and a private in the 101st Machine Gun Battalion, and he learned of Wallgren's ability as a cartoonist.

Orders assigning them to the paper were quickly put through, and Viskniskki requisitioned the services of Charles P. Cushing, a second lieutenant of the Marines as his first assistant. These three, with Lieutenant William K. Miehael as advertising manager, constituted the staff of the paper for the first week.

Additionally the Press Section at Chaumont contributed features for the first issue. In fact, it was a case of all available hands to the copy desk, and no one knows but the little band of writers who participated in the first week "free for all" just what the result would be, but the paper was published on time, and it was a pronounced success from the start.

The working eapital of The Stars and Stripes, at the time of its inauguration was 25,000 francs, which was borrowed from The General Staff. It was understood from the beginning that the paper was to be made selfsupporting. To help towards this end the price of the paper was fixed at 50 centimes, about ten cents in value at that time. From the first issue an intensive eampaign for advertising was put on, and after the first few months the advertising averaged at least 40 per cent. The success of the paper as an advertising medium was instantaneous.

The way the soldiers dug down into their pockets for their 50 centimes for each issue would have been gratifying to the heart of many a circulation manager in the states. Long before the anniversary issue of The STARS AND STRIPES appeared the loan from the General Staff had been repaid with interest, and a substantial balance was shown on the credit side of the paper's bank account.

The income was not limited alone to advertising and circulation receipts. At different times the paper published three volumes; "Yanks," a collection of the poetry published in The Stars and Stripes; "Wally, His Cartoons of the A. E. F., and "Henry's Pal to Henry," a series of humorous letters written by Sergeant Seth T. Bailey.

These three books enjoyed a tremendous sale, and their popularity in the A. E. F. was not equalled by any other book or books sold in France. "Yanks" appeared in November, 1918, "Henry's Pal to Henry" early in the spring of 1919, and "Wally's Cartoons," several weeks later.



The Editorial Room at 32 Rue Taitbout

The Editorial Department

The editorial staff of the paper, at the very beginning was composed of only two writers and an artist. The writers were Major Visniskki, the originator of the paper, and Hudson Hawley, a private from the 101st Machine Gun Battalion, and before that of the New York Sun. Hawley wrote nearly all of the first few issues at Neufchateau. His stories ran from editorials to such supreme foolishness as "Bran Mash" and "Miss Information." The artist was Abian A. Wallgren, of the 5th Marines.

Sharing honors with these men in the production of the first issue of The Stars and Stripes were four soldier printers dispatched to Paris from the Twenty-ninth Division a week before the first issue appeared. They were Sergeant Richard S. Claiborne, the oldest man on the staff of the paper who saw service dating from the Cuban campaign, Private Sigurd U. Bergh, Private Herman J. Miller, and Private Frank J. Hammer. These four men remained until the paper suspended publication.

At different times during the first year of the paper's life additional help was acquired in the editorial department. All of the men who came to work on The Stars and Stripes were men with years of experience behind them and some of them not only became famous throughout the A. E. F. for their contributions to The Stars and Stripes but achieved national prominence.

Private Harold W. Ross who came to the paper from the 18th Engineers had, before the war worked for *The San Francisco Call*,

and as one of the stories in The Stars and Stripes put it, "on 78 other papers, at different times." Private Ross became the managing editor of The Stars and Stripes shortly after becoming attached to the paper and was with the paper until a short while before it suspended publication. He conceived the idea of a fund for French War Orphans, which was one of the most commendable of the paper's activities.

Sergeant Seth T. Bailey of The Sunset Division was responsible for the letters of "Henry's Pal to Henry," which were published in book form by The Stars and Stripes, and which were undoubtedly the most humorous of the many attempts at such a type of wit.

Sergeant Alexander Woolleott, who before the war was dramatic critic for *The New York Times*, was picked up in Base Hospital No. 8, and did wonderful work as the writer of stories from the American front.

Tyler H. Bliss, became famous for his weekly articles in "The Dizzy Sector."

Other men who did notable work as members of the Editorial Council were John T. Winterich, of the 96th Aero Squadron and The Springfield Republican; Philip Von Blon, of Base Hospital No. 4 and The Cleveland Plain Dealer; Jack S. Connolly, of the 101st Field Artillery and The Boston Herald; Robert Snajdr, of the 308th Ammunition Train and The Cleveland Plain Dealer, and John Black, of Base Hospital 15 and The Brooklyn Eagle.

Despite the fact that there were always commissioned officers in charge of the paper, these enlisted men at all times had the direction of the paper's policy and wrote most of the editorials and stories. There were correspondents scattered all over the A. E. F. and some of the editorial staff stationed at Paris frequently took long trips from that city for the purpose of keeping in touch with the men who were fighting and to learn their likes and desires. The editors were quick to recognize anything which met the approval of the American soldiers and to sense those things of which they disapproved. There is no question that The Stars and Stripes in many instances had a great bearing on the men who read it.

At one time, after the Armistice, when the men absent without leave were causing great concern in the A. E. F. an order was issued which made the penalty for being A. W. O. L. very heavy. The officer responsible for the order was not greatly in favor of the publication of a news story concerning the order but finally consented to a write up. The article appeared in the next issue of The Stars and Stripes under the caption, "More Grease On The Skids for A. W. O. L's." In a few days more than 80 per cent of the men absent without leave from their organizations had reported for duty.

At another time, an officer in charge of a certain office in Paris needed help from soldiers with special qualifications. To call the attention of the men who might be available to the fact that he needed them he brought a story of a column length to the office of The Stars and Stripes and insisted that it be published intact on the first page. He was very angry when he found that his story had been pruned down to two short paragraphs

and printed on an inside page. However, several days after the appearance of the paper a telephone call came from his office requesting that The Stars and Stripes publish no more stories stating that help was required there because they had already been flooded with replies from the short story which had appeared.

These instances are recalled only for the purpose of showing that the paper was read thoroughly and that the men missed nothing that the editorial staff thought worth while printing. It may also be an indication of the fact that the editors knew what to write and how to write it so the men who read it could understand.

First Managing Editor

The first managing editor of The Stars and Stripes was Private John T. Winterich of the 96th Acro Squadron and the Springfield Republican, a splendid all-around newspaper man discovered by Major Watson at Chaumont. Winterich's modesty is characteristic, but his associates on the paper realized the tremendous work he performed, and gave him credit for a major part in the paper's phenomenal success.

If any man predominated on the editorial staff it was Tracy, who wrote heads and feature stories with equal facility and on whose shoulders rested the responsibility of the final make-up and of subordinating the "Ever Ready" Mr. Faithful, the *Daily Mail* foreman of printing.

İncidentally it should be recorded that Winterich "carried on" in the capacity of utility man throughout the anxious days of



Editorial Council—Left to right, T. H. "Tip" Bliss, Philip Von Blon, J. W. Rixey Smith, Robert I. Snajdr, Hudson Hawley.

the memorable 1918 summer and did not relinquish his position until long after the Armistice, when he resigned in favor of his buddy "Ross." Even then he continued to exercise his influence until the finish in the eapacity of associate editor.

The Editorials

As has been stated before the editorial policy of The Stars and Stripes was almost entirely in the hands of several enlisted men. They not only dictated the editorial policy of the paper, but they wrote the editorials in such a style that they were interesting to the men and grippingly, convincingly, understandable. They condemned what they thought was wrong and commended what they believed to be right in unmistakable terms. The editorials were written in a snappy style, which came to be considered characteristic of The Stars and Stripes. In the first issue, an editorial announcing the beginning of The Stars and Stripes ran as follows:

"With this issue The Stars and Stripes reports for active service with the A. E. F. It is your paper, and has but one axe to grind—the axe which our Uncle Samuel is whetting on the grindstone for use upon the august necks of the Hapsburgs and the Hohenzollerns."

"The Stars and Stripes is unique in that every soldier purchaser, every soldier subseriber, is a stockholder and a member of the board of directors. It isn't being run for any individual's profit, and it serves no class but the fighting men in France who wear the olive drab and the forest green. Its profits go to the eompany funds of the soldier subscribers, and the staff of the paper isn't paid a sou.

"If you don't find in this, your own weekly, the things in which you are particularly interested, write to the editors, and if it is humanly possible they will dig up the stuff you want. There are so many of you over here now, and so many different sorts of you, that it is more than likely that some of your hobbies have been overlooked in this our first number. Let us know.

"We want to hear from that artist in your outfit, that ex-newspaper reporter, that short-story writer, that company 'funny man,' and that fellow who writes the verses. We want to hear from all of you—for The Stars and Stripes is your paper, first, last and all the time; for you and for those of your friends and relatives to whom you will care to send it.

"The Stars and Stripes is up at the top o' the mast for the duration of the war. It will try to reach every one of you, every week—mud, shell-holes and fog notwithstanding. It will yield rights of the roadway only to troops and ambulances, food, ammunition and guns, and the paymaster's car. It has a big job ahead to prove worthy of its namesake, but, with the help of all of you, it will, in good

old down east parlance, 'do its gol-derndest' to deliver the goods. So—For-ward! MARCH!'

The diplomacy of the editorial staff is very evident in the following editorial which deals with the profanity of the A. E. F. Without offending the spirits of the soldiers the editor wrote very eonvineingly of the wrong way of cussing and defended, without injuring the feeling of the most ardent advocate of clean speech, the "euss" words which were generally employed to bolster up the language of the doughboy.

"It is violating no confidence to state that some soldiers euss. It is equally true that some cuss more than others. But it is not to be forgotten that some soldiers don't euss at all.

"Soldiers are just like other folks, a thing some people find extremely hard to understand. Cussing isn't by any means a vice peculiar to the military profession.

"It isn't our purpose to condone cussing, or to advocate its free and unlimited coinage in the A. E. F. We merely wish to point out that it is a habit which some people bring into the Army with them, just as they bring other habits, such as brushing their teeth and parting their hair on the side. Being a careless habit, born sometimes of years of careless speech and a mistaken sense of emphasis, it doesn't at all imply blasphemous thoughts or irreverance towards the Deity on the part of the doughboy.

"A soldier who cusses may not be what the ladies call a 'nice' man, but it doesn't follow that he's an irreverent, godless wretch. He has seen too much of the works and wonders of God, too much of the divine in the actions of God's children about him to be blasphemous at heart. So, when some of the brethren, both here and at home, are inclined to be eaptious, we ask them to hold up a bit and reflect."



By Baldridge.



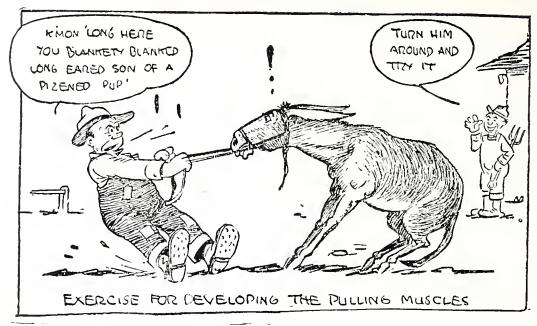
Hotel Ste. Anne, well known to many members of the A. E. F., who visited Paris. It was here the offices of "The Stars and Stripes" were established when they were first moved from Neufchateau.

Henry's Fal to Henry

Seth Bailey made many otherwise dull moments for the doughboys bright by his ridiculous letters supposedly written by the pal of a mythical Henry, who had enlisted in the Army early in the game and who insisted on keeping Henry informed of his personal adventures in a manner that brought mirth whenever read.

One of Bailey's letters is reproduced below in order that the quality of his writings may be shown. They were all funny, and it is not to be understood that great trouble has been taken in reprinting this one to find the funniest that was written:

"Franse, July 13th, 1918.
"Dear Henry. Well Henry you ain't got nothing on me much. I'm at the front ossie. Of course I ain't quite as near as you are maybe but I'm so close it ain't very healthy to go out promonodding in no quiet country lane with a madamoiselle on your arm like I used to do down in the S. O. S.



By Wally.

"Well they was a lot of mules eoming up here from down in the S. O. S. town where I wrote to you from and it seems that they needed some mule skinners right quiek to take them up. One morning the C. O. eome over to our eompany and wants to know if there's any mule skinners in the doughboys that wants to go the front.

"Now Henry what I don't know about mules would fill a fair sized ensiklopedia. I never even hooked one up before, but it's almost like hooking up a tame horse and I would of done anything Henry to get to the front. So I stepped out of line and pulled my hat over on one side and kind of spit sideways to give the old bird a good impression of the real thing he wanted most right then.

"Well Henry I got to eome alright. We left the S. O. S. about ten days ago and we just pulled in. All we had to do on the way up was to earry watter for them pesky rabbits. I ean just bet you Henry that a mule ean drink twice as much water as a elephant any old day.

"But the worst part of it now that I'm up here is that I'm still a noneombatant and am still a doughboy too. I enlisted to fight Henry and about the first time I get a chance I'm going right up in the front line thrensh with the doughboys and take a crack at a Hun.

"Good luck old Pal.

S. T. B."

"Dizzy Sector"

Among the humorists of the A. E. F. Tip Bliss ranks high. His writings ranged from advice to the lovelorn to the notes of an expert on the correct manner of military dress. Written in typical American, his stories took hold, and kept hold. Just a short time ago, a veteran of the big serap, writing about some real or faneied wrong done him by a negligent Government elerk, wrote, "as Tip Bliss would say, 'what and the hell?" Bliss was a earefree doughboy in the truest sense of the word, and since his return to eivilian life has continued to write his stories for the edification of his former soldier readers. He has a penchant for trailing a disreputable looking dog after him on his strolls, and the soldiers who have seen him with the dog think it is funny—they think so because they can't think of Bliss with any other thought.

Divisional Histories

After the armistice The Stars and Stripes ran eomplete histories of all the divisions which had taken part in the fighting in France. Many and fieree were the arguments engaged in concerning the effectiveness of different divisions when members of them got together, and sometimes there threatened to be warfare equalling in bloodshed the struggles in the Argonne when two or more doughty warriors wearing different insignia on their left shoulders got together in the friendly shelter of a eafe to discuss the part they had played in winning the war. The Stars and Stripes, always foremost in promoting peace and congenial relations between the different units of the A. E. F. recognized the need of publishing the truth eoneerning every division, so that he who could read might see and be convineed.

The divisional histories were written by Captain Joseph Mills Hanson, official historian of The Stars and Stripes at G. H. Q. These histories were not the first contributions of Captain Hanson to The Stars and Stripes as he had written poetry for the paper very frequently before the histories were published.

THE FIRST TO GO HOME



The Art Department

Perhaps no other one man became so generally known to the soldiers of the A. E. F. as did Abian A. Wallgren, the cartoonist, whose strip appeared in each issue of the paper from the first to the last issues. Wallgren was serving with the Fifth Marines around Damblaine, where they were just getting ready for their first sojourn in the trenches when The Stars and Stripes was inaugurated. His first strip was drawn there and sent to Neufchateau. His cartoons have been styled "undoubtedly the funniest drawings of army life

ever conceived." He was not only one of the soldiers but his sense of humor and his powers of observation were so keen that he readily grasped the things which the men considered humorous. He constantly made trips to the front during his service with the paper to study conditions and to get material for his cartoons. He made life miserable for the members of the staff who were conspicuous for some physical characteristic which made them good models. Hudson Hawley, whose dome was devoid of any hirsute adornment was one of his favorite models, while George W. B. Britt, Army Field Clerk, styled Alpha-



INSPECTION AS THEY ARE NOT BEING WORN THAT WAY



IS A FAUX PAS, AS THEY LIGUALLY BOTTOOM THEIT OWN

BIZEAD CARDS AND DON'T NEED THE ONE YOU DIDN'T USE

YESTERDAY . - (ADVICE TO FEMALE CAFICERS BY MALE)

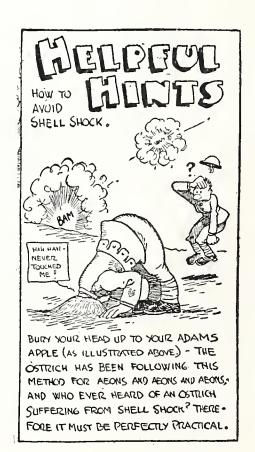


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WITH SERIOUS EFFECTS TO THE SHEEZEE, COMPRISHE

A LOSS OF SELF RESPECT AND WITH AL AN AID TO THE ENEMY (IF THE SHEEZE IS ABSOCUTELY UNANDIDABLE, LET IT BE THRU THE EARS TH PREFERENCE, AS INCENTS AND NOT COVERED AND AFFORD AFRICA ARRYPSAND



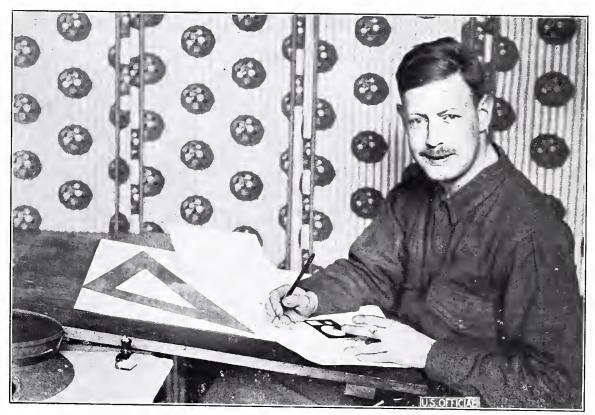
bet Britt, because of the markers of letters in , cartoons which not even the most indifferent his initials, offered good material with his 300 could fail to see.

or more pounds of avoirdupois. Wallgren Soldier Verse or more pounds of avoirdupois. Wallgren was known familiarly to all the soldiers of the A. E. F. as Wally and the nickname persists to this day. His popularity was proven by the great demand for his cartoons when they were published in book form by The Stars AND STRIPES.

One of the great American dailies said, "If THE STARS AND STRIPES accomplished nothing more it served to bring to the front a truly great American artist in the person of C. Le-Roy Baldridge." Baldridge was fighting the Germans before America entered the war, but as soon as he learned that the United States had taken a hand he lost no time in getting into the American Army. He became the official artist for The Stars and Stripes soon after its appearance and by the quality of his work soon earned for himself a place among the great artists of the day. One of his cartoons, entitled "The First To Go Home," which is reproduced here, was intended as a silent rebuke to the men who were clamoring to get home after the armistice. It gained special mention at home, as did several others, which were reproduced by newspapers and magazines all over the world. It may be said that Baldridge caught the spirit of the American fighter in a fuller sense than did any other man who attempted to do so, and that he drew stories, morals, and doetrines into his

Soldier Verse

The poetry which appeared in The Stars AND STRIPES came from everywhere and from everybody in the A. E. F. Under the stress of war the literature of a country receives an impetus. The professional writers are inspired by heroic deeds and are fired with patriotic zeal to the point where they excel themselves in their work. However, the most sentimental, the most graphic, and that which most truly expresses the feelings of the men engaged is that which they themselves write. And it was the policy of The Stars and Stripes to print the poetry that was received if it had a semblance of worth. It mattered not about the meter or the feet, if the words meant something. A great many times the poetry printed by The Stars and Stripes was not highly creditable but it was without exception expressive. Not that all of the work was done by amateurs—some of it was contributed by members of the A. E. F. who had gained considerable prestige as writers of verse at home and some of it was contributed anonymously by persons who evidently had had a great deal of experience. In the first issue of The Stars and Stripes was reproduced a poem which was found tacked on the door of a billet by some unknown member of a regiment which had just departed for the



Wally, well-known Scandinavian cartoonist and enemy of prohibition. Real name-Abian A. Wallgren.

FOR SOME OF US THE WAR WILL NEVER END



front. The poem, which is reproduced here, more truly expresses the spirit of the men who enlisted from a sense of duty than all the lyrics penned at home throughout the war. It has all through it that strain of happy-go-lucky spirit which made the Yanks such wonderful scrappers and which compelled the admiration of our allies. The poem is as follows:

By the rifle on my back,

By my old and well-worn pack,

By the bayonets we sharpened in the billets down below,

When we're holding to a sector,

By the howling jumping Hector,

Colonel, we'll be Gott-Strafed if the Blankteenth lets it go. And the Boehes big and small, Runty ones and Boehes tall,

Won't keep your boys a squatting in the ditches very long:

For we'll soon be busting through, sir—

God help Fritzie when we do, sir—
Let's get going, Colonel Blank, because w

Let's get going, Colonel Blank, because we're feeling mighty strong.

This poem and the other poems reproduced in these pages are reprinted here because they give some idea of what the doughboys were thinking of as they lay in the trenches, in their billets, or were on leave for a while, away from the commotion of war. They may be said to express the heart of the A. E. F. sentimentally, morally, and religiously, as well as frivolously and humorously.

As We Know Them

THE CAPTAIN

He's got the longest pair of legs that ever came to France, And when he takes us on a hike, it's sure a merry dance; He's got the longest mem'ry, too; 'cause when we ask for leave He always has a Something on our records up his sleeve.

He likes to get up early and check up on reveille, And if the turnout isn't prompt, there's nothing he can't say; He blisters all the late ones, right before the whole command— And say! That man can handle scorching language simply grand!

It's "Squads right!" after breakfast, with no let-up until noon; The next thing, he'll be working us beneath the blasted moon. It's "Squads left!" after mid-day chow—police, fatigue and such Till everyone is eager for a stretcher or a crutch.

But up in front? The Skipper's There! He keeps us peppered up By jollying and ragging us; bouquets what's made by Krupp May fly around his dome all night and bust his snooze all day—He goes his rounds, and quizzes guards, all cheerful-like and gay.

It's hell-for-leather all the time if you would follow him, He's always three good jumps ahead, with punch and pep and vim; But if I ever re-enlist, I think that I will try To get into his outfit, for he's one real human guy!

HUDSON HAWLEY.

JOHN DOE—BUCK PRIVATE

Who was it, picked from civil life
And plunged in deadly, frenzied strife
Against a Devil's dreadful might?
Just plain "John Doe—Buck Private."

Who jumped the counter for the trench, And left fair shores for all the stench And mud, and death, and bloody drench? Your simple, plain "Buck Private."

Who, when his nerves were on the hop, With courage scaled the bloody top? Who was it made the Hun swine stop? "J. Doe (no stripes) Buck Private."

Who, underneath his training tan Is, every single inch, a man! And, best of all, American? "John Doe, just plain Buck Private."

Who saw his job and did it well? Who smiles so bland—yet fights like Hell? Who rang again the Freedom bell? 'Twas only "Doe—Buck Private."

Who was it lunged and struck and tore His bayonet deep into Hun gore? Who was it helped to win the war? "John Doe (no brains) Buck Private."

Who, heeding not the laurel pile
That scheming other men beguile,
Stands modestly aside the while?
"John Doe (God's kind) Buck Private."

ALLAN R. THOMSON,
Sgt., Hq., Detch., 81st Div.

A BATTLE PRAYER

Alone upon a hill I stand O'erlooking trench and No Man's Land; In night's black skies, like Northern Lights, Pale flashes rise to mark the heights Where Death's dark angels bear away The souls of men who die today.

Jesus of Nazareth, from Thy cross Look down and comfort those who toss And scream in pain and anguish dread In No Man's Land among the dead; Have pity for the wounds they bear, Jesus of Nazareth, hear my prayer.

On Calvary, as the hours dragged, From cruel nails Thy body sagged, Yet in that agony, O Lord, Thou didst give blessed comfort t'ward One suffering soul who with Thee died: He who for sin was crucified.

Out there lie men who die for right—O Christ, be merciful tonight;
Wilt Thou who stilled the troubled seas
Stretch forth Thy hand their pain to ease,
Thy sons whose feet so bravely trod
Earth's battlefields, O Son of God?

Brainerd Taylor, Major, U.S.A.

The French War Orphan Fund

The announcement that The Stars and Stripes would work in conjunction with the American Red Cross in taking care of the French children made fatherless by the world war appeared in the eighth issue of The Stars and Stripes.

The procedure followed in adopting a French War Orphan is best described in the following article clipped from The Stars and Stripes.

How to Adopt a War Orphan

A company, detachment, or group of the A. E. F. agrees to adopt a child for a year, contributing 500 francs for its support.

The children will be either orphans, the children of French soldiers so seriously crippled that they cannot work, or homeless waifs from the invaded districts. The adopting unit may select its child from any of these classes and specify its age and sex.

The money will be sent to The Stars and Stripes to be turned over to a special commit-



Marie-Louise Patriarche, the first French war orphan adopted through "The Stars and Stripes"

tec of the American Red Cross for disbursement.

At least two hundred and fifty francs will be paid upon adoption and the remainder within four months thereafter.

All of the money contributed will go to the children. The expenses of administration will be borne by the Red Cross.

A photograph and a history of each child will be sent to its adopting unit, which will be advised of the child's whereabouts and hereafter notified monthly of its progress.

The Rcd Cross committee will determine the disposal of the child. It will either be sent to a practical agricultural or trade school or supported in a French family.

The Red Cross committee will regularly visit the schools and homes of the children and supervise the expenditures of the money upon them.

No restrictions are placed upon the methods by which the money may be raised. It may be gathered by an equal assessment upon the members of a unit, by passing the hat, by giving an entertainment—in any way the unit sees fit.

The funds may be handled through the C.O. the top sergeant's office, or by any one in a unit designated for the purpose.

Address all communications regarding these children to War Orphans' Department, The Stars and Stripes, G2, A. E. F., 1 Ruc des Italiens, Paris, France.

THE STARS AND STRIPES by this plan made possible the care, feeding, and education of thousands of French children whose fathers had gone to the war and who had not returned, or who had returned in such a condition that they could not support their families.

Companies, regiments, detachments, permanent units, every organization that could, became the proud "parrain" of a fatherless French child. The Stars and Stripes adopted one of these children, by name Marie Louise Patriarch, who lost both her natural parents by direct cause of the war. Little Marie was between six and seven years of age when the journalistic doughboys took her under their wings, and when they left France they left enough money to take care of her until she would be of an age to take care of herself. Since their return to America the members of the original staff of The Stars AND STRIPES have sent enough money to France to see little Marie safely through school, and as other organizations took as much interest in their adopted orphans it may be safely supposed that many otherwise friendless children have been well taken care of through the generosity of the American Expeditionary Forces.



No. 1, Rue des Italiens. "The Stars and Stripes" had offices on the fifth and sixth floors of this building from April to December, 1918.

Soldiers' Service

The Soldiers' Service Department of The Stars and Stripes was developed to a high degree of efficiency. The men who had charge of it were also newspaper men of experience, and although they had a phase of newspaper work to deal with different from any which they had ever had before, they rose grandly to the occasion, and succeeded in making the columns of the paper so valuable through the work of their department alone that it was

increased in value to its readers a hundred fold. It was the duties of the men in charge of this department to read all the multifarious communications which arrived from the men in the service asking for advice, information, help, or for anything else that they couldn't get anywhere else. A story published in The Stars and Stripes said that the Service Department answered questions ranging in importance from the age of President Wilson to whether or not Mary Pickford had died during the epidemic of influenza in the States. There

is no doubt that the Service Department conducted by The Stars and Stripes was able to render better service than the information departments conducted by the welfare organizations and others for the reason that the paper served as the medium of intelligence between those sceking information and those who could give it and no letters were required except in cases where the information sought was of a confidential nature. The extent to which this feature was used by the men is evidenced by the fact that during the life of the paper the service department answered more than 500,000 inquiries by personal letters.

The Service Department was in charge of George W. B. Britt, Army Field Clerk, who was assisted by Sergeant William F. Germain, of the 320th Machine Gun Battalion, and of *The New York World*. The detail work was done by a staff of about eight enlisted men, whose work was directed by Britt and

Germain.

Sport Page

No newspaper is complete without its sport page, or section. So when The Stars and Stripes was conceived, a sport page was planned. George W. B. Britt, Army Field Clerk, was selected to take care of the office of Sports Editor. So when the initial edition was delivered throughout the A. E. F. the readers were greeted with news from the athletic fields back home as well as with what was going on in the realm of sports from the S. O. S. to the advance deports and rest areas.

In connection with this, it might well be said that the honor of having the first signed story—and the only one by the way—goes to

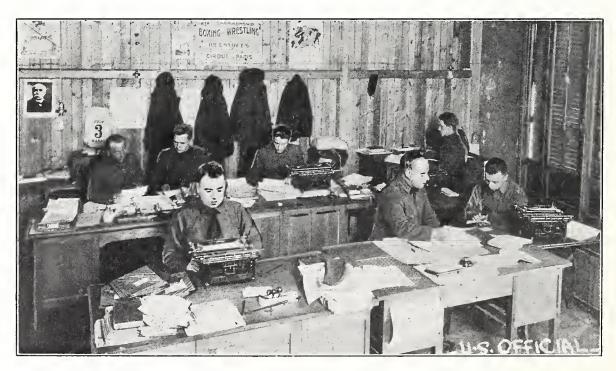
Britt. It was his story on the Kid Johnson vs. Judson C. Pewther fight "somewhere near G. H. Q."

The sports page was well read and the readers were pleased with it, until the War Department back in the States issued the famous "Work or Fight" order. The cables then brought stories of famous athletes runing to the snipyards or farms to escape going to France.

Grantland Rice, the renowned writer of sports, was assigned to duty with The Stars and Striper during the first few months of its existence. "Grantland" was keen to be "up front" with the doughboys, but a relentless Intelligence Section, anxious to strengthen the Army paper, ordered him to Paris, and the editor gave him as his first assignment the job of "killing" the sport page. The chagrin of the big sporting editor at this order can be imagined, but it was in the line of duty, and "bang" went the page. How Lieutenant Rice applied the quietus to the stay-at-home athletes is shown by the following excerpt:

"The Stars and Stripes is printed for the A. E. F., not to help perpetuate the renown of able-bodied stars, who, with unusual qualifications for war or useful work, elected to hear only the 'Business as Usual' slogan about their country's call for help in the greatest war she has ever known.

"There is but one Big League today for this paper to cover—and that league winds its way among the S. O. S. stations scattered throughout France and ends at the western front. Any work that is part of the Big Job, either in the lines or back of it, from Chateau-



The Soldier Service Department—Left to right—William F. Germain, Arthur R. Burchill, David L. Phillips, John M. Bucher, George W. B. Britt, A. V. Henrichsen, Logan M. Dayton.

Thierry to San Francisco, is of utmost value. But 'entertaining the people back home' isn't part of the Big Job, nor do we believe the bulk of them want to be entertained in any such way.

"When it finally came to a point where any number of able-bodied men were rushing into various occupations at the point of the boot, when the Secretary of War was forced to produce a ruling that would make hundreds of these men 'work or fight' as the squabble and scurry grew day after day, this paper felt that it no longer had space left for such activities—not with so many events of far greater interest taking place within sight and hearing of its working staff.

"There is no space left for the Cobbs, the Ruths, the Johnsons, the Willards and the Fultons in the case and safety of home when the Ryans, the Smiths, the Larsens, the Bernsteins and others are charging machine guns and plugging along through shrapnel or grinding out 12-hour details 200 miles in the rear.

"Back home the sight of a high fly drifting into the late sun may still have its thrill for a few. But over here the all absorbing factors are shrapnel, high explosives, machine gun bullets, trench digging, stable cleaning, nursing, training back of the lines and other endless details throughout France from the base ports to beyond the Marne.

"Sport among the troops must go on—for that is part of the job. Sport among the youngsters back home must go on—for that,

too, is part of the training job.

"But the glorified, the commercialized, the spectatorial sport of the past has been burnt out by gunfire. The sole slogan left is 'Beat Germany.' Anything that pertains to that slogan counts. The rest docsn't. And that is why this is the last sporting page The Stars and Stripes will print until an Allied victory brings back peace."

The A. E. F. readers agreed with the Editorial Council and were contented to let the news of slacker professionals go to the

waste basket.

After the Meuse-Argonne offensive and the end of the fighting, hundreds of letters were received daily from men scattered throughout the A. E. F. "When are we going to get our sport page back?" was the gist of all. Peace negotiations were going on. The editorial council remembered its promise of July 26, and plans for the resumption of the Sport Page were made. Sgt. Nat. C. Worley of the editorial staff was placed in charge.

It was decided to cover A. E. F. athletics and sports in full and to touch but lightly on the athletic activities in the United States. So on December 27, 1918, the Sporting

Page was resumed. The large athletic program mapped out for the entire A. E. F. by the General Staff was being put into action. There were Divisional Meets, in boxing, wrestling, track and field events, with the final culmination in the A. E. F. Championships in all events.

For a while Worley tackled the job solo, but after a few weeks Sgt. Felix Holt was assigned to assist the sporting editor, and he covered most of the A. E. F. sports events, from Brest to the Rhine and from Monte Carlo to Belgium. Other members of the staff were assigned to special events such as tennis and golf matches.

The Sporting Page was kept going through the rest of the winter and until the STARS

AND STRIPES was discontinued.

The A. E. F. Amusement Page

There were thousands of amusements staged by dramatists, actors of various degrees of ability, musicians, elocutionists, acrobats, singers, and vaudevillians for the benefit of the soldiers of the A. E. F., but if there had not been some way in which to let the men know when and where the different events were being staged there would not have been much of an attendance at the entertainments and the men would have missed a great deal that was coming to them.

To help spread the good news The Stars and Stripes ran a weekly A. E. F. Amusement Section, which told its readers where the entertainments for their benefit were being staged. It was not necessary to run a dramatic or musical department to give the men reviews or press notices of the shows. All they wanted to know was where and when the big times were to come off and they'd be there, regardless of what the bunch who had seen the act before had said or thought about it. Besides, the great majority of the entertainers who appeared for the benefit of the soldiers in France were people whose reputations were already established, and whose fame in the States had preceded them to France. Perhaps the A. E. F. Amusement Section meant a great deal to the men than a casual reader might believe. With only thirty-three bucks a month in the great majority of cases to eover all living expenses and provide recreation the men were always glad to have the opportunity of enjoying the productions staged by the welfare and other organizations, and if the announcement came through The Stars and Stripes the only thing that could keep them away was the fact that they were on active duty or in the hospital, or the added possibility that the temporary playhouse was too far removed from their sector.

THAT LETTER FROM HOME



—which is still fresh at the forty-first reading.

By Baldridge.

The Stars and Stripes Mother's Day

Every newspaper, at some time in its eareer, makes some effort to prove its influence upon its readers by sponsoring some idea, and endeavoring to get their opinions concerning it. There were very few movements endorsed or plans inaugurated by The Stars and Stripes

which were not accorded support by the soldier readers. An instance of the good influence of the paper and the manner in which the men responded to an appeal from its editorial staff was the Mother's Day Letter, which was suggested and carried out by The Stars and Stripes. Every man in The A. E. F. was urged on that day to write a letter to his

mother, not only because of the sentiment attached to the day and to the women whom it honored, but as a tribute to the part which the women of America played in carrying on the war successfully, and the bravery with which they surrendered their loved ones to the service of their country.

The success of The Mother's Day Letter plan was the subject of a speech in The House of Representatives by Mr. Lonergan of Connecticut on the bill making appropriations for the support of the Army for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1919. Mr. Lonergan brought in The Stars and Stripes in this way, beginning with his tribute to the Army:

"These men, leaving all at the call of duty, have carried with them not a little of the idealism that makes this Nation an honored one among the peoples of the world. Nothing could have typified it more than did the action of Pershing's troops in deciding to observe Mother's Day, May 12, last, by writing home to their mothers.

"The plan was suggested by the editors of The Stars and Stripes. . . . This plan was met with the immediate approval of Gen. Pershing. . . .

"When this information was cabled here, I suggested to Postmaster General Albert S. Burleson that the mail of the soldiers posted Mother's Day be expedited in transit. He agreed and wired to the editors of The Stars and Stripes, which is the official organ of our troops abroad, that mail posted on Mother's Day would, as far as possible, have the right of way.

way.

"Prompted by the whole-hearted way in which the American soldiers abroad responded, I suggested to the Secretary of War and to the Secretary of the Navy, as well as to the Commandant of the Marine Corps, that the troops at cantonments and in our insular possessions, the men with the fleet abroad and at home, and the Marines, wherever stationed, be included."

There follows the rcply of the Adjutant-General to the Congressman's suggestion, stating that the Secretary of War had been pleased to adopt it.

Continuing, Mr. Lonergan says:

"The fleet, I was informed, was notified by wireless along the same lines on May 11.

Thus, every man wearing the service uniform of the United States on May 12 last, whether his duty was that of holding the front trench in France, or of sweeping with his eye the horizon of the North Sea for the telltale periscope . . . of guarding our border . . . of learning at our training camps the art of war, used at least a few minutes of his day in writing to the one friend whose heart is always with him, his mother.

"The significance of this action can hardly

be overestimated. . . . It was with no little pleasure, then, that I was informed by Mr. Otto Praeger, Second Assistant Postmaster-General, in charge of foreign mails, that on May 31, 1918, there arrived at an Atlantic port, a transport bringing 1,425,000 letters written by our troops and by the men of the fleet on Mother's Day, in addition to 205,000 letters received earlier the same week.

"This mail, I was further advised, began to arrive at the post office of the port where the ship landed, at 4.05 o'clock, and was worked out and dispatched to its destination on every available train during the night, and every letter was out of the office before 11 o'clock of the morning of June 1; and orders had been issued by postmasters everywhere to give expeditious handling to this mail."

Father's Xmas Letters

It must be said, to the everlasting eredit of The Stars and Stripes editorial staff, that although they paid a high tribute to the mothers of America's soldiers when they suggested a letter to every mother of every soldier in France, and every sailor on the high seas, they did not, in their turn, neglect the fathers of America, who had just as bravely as the mothers, given up their sons for their country.

Every soldier in The A. E. F. was urged, through the columns of The Stars and Stripes to write his father a Christmas Victory letter on Christmas Day, 1918, telling Dad, Pop, Father, Papa, the Governor, or The Old Man, as the case might be, just how it was done, who did it, and what part he had played in it, and also to tell him that although he had been, since the dawn of history, overlooked in the lyries of the poet, the sentimental backward glaneing of man in his deelining years, and to all outward appearances, the affection of his children, he was remembered by America's crusaders fighting on foreign soil. He was to be told that although he had not wept on the shoulder of his son when he went away, and that although his few letters had been brief and to the point, that the soldier knew who had furnished the money which had been sent to him, and who had repeated with pride the letters which Mother had received. He was to be told that his son was writing to him as one man to another; that his stoieism at parting, his avoidance of sentimentality in his letters, and his substantial evidence of good faith and loyalty as expressed by the check book was deeply appreciated.

So it came to pass that the hearts of many men were made glad by receiving from "The Boy," over there, a special letter marked "Father's Xmas Letter," in the eorner where formerly was written, "Soldier's Mail," and which was given expedite handling by the Postal authorities so it would be sure to reach him on Christmas Day.

The Mother's Day Letter and The Father's Christmas Letter uphold the statement that The Stars and Stripes was more nearly a pure American newspaper than any other sheet that had ever been published. It overlooked no one to whom credit was due, and no opportunity to do service to its supporters; it did not hesitate to endorse worthy cause nor to give its support to any worthy movement. The volume of letters sent from France for a few weeks prior to Christmas, 1918, was only a bit smaller than that sent home for Mother's Day, and if those letters could be gathered together and compiled what a wonderful story of the World War they might tell.

The Ensign Started Something

THE STARS AND STRIPES published in its issue of October 25, 1918, a story from Ensign Fred Anderson, of the Salvation Army, stationed in the Toul Sector during the big drive there, as follows:

STEP UP, GENTS

To the Editor of The Stars and Stripes:

I would like to find out through your paper, if we made a record in hot cake making. During the big drive on the Toul sector, we started in at 7:30 a.m., and continued one steady fry until 3 o'clock the next morning, making hot cakes on a plate four by four feet, making 12 large cakes at a time, three plates every five minutes, or something like 8,000 cakes in one stretch, without stopping.

I have talked to several cooks and they all seem to think this is the record. If any one place has beaten us, kindly let us know.

This is a Salvation Army flap-jack place, and the originator and operator is Ensign Fred Anderson of Taeoma, Wash. I shall be glad to hear from any eook on this just for the fun of it, and will be willing to run a race on frying for a canteen, when and wherever it can be arranged.

Ensign Fred Anderson, Oct. 25, 1918. Salvation Army.

Although Ensign Anderson wrote this letter in strict conformity to the truth and with the most sincere intention of engaging in a hot eake frying contest with any man in the A. E. F. who thought he could do better, the letter was received with some doubt as to the veraeity of its contents and the claims of the writer, and immediately there began pouring into the offices of The Stars and Stripes letters from other men who made themselves or their favorite mess sergeants elaimants for the laurels of Mr. Anderson, although their letters lacked the one essential of truth which made Anderson's unbelievable. Many such letters were received but the one which follows won for the writer the award of the asbestos griddle which was offered by the lovers of liars in the American Expeditionary Forces.

To the Editor of The Stars and Stripes:

I have read in the columns of your most excellent paper the famous exploits of Ensign Fred Anderson and J. Gorman Strasler in the art of quantity hot cake baking.

My respects to these gentlemen whose fame no doubt is high in the flapjack world and probably, with but one exception, without a peer. That one exception is a certain mess sergeant in the Army of Occupation, doing duty a while back somewhere between the Argonne Forest and the Rhine. I am sorry that for obvious reasons his name cannot be mentioned, and it would be a breach of military prudence should I mention the place where this most modest mess sergeant did some real flapjack baking.

A number of fighting divisions were en route to the Rhine when a general order comes flying through the columns of marehing troops that a rest of one week would be granted, and a mess sergeant was wanted to erect and direct the consolidation of the many kitchens in the 2d Division and feed the hungry, tired, footsore soldiers.

So, like a good patriot, the very modest mess sergeant of whom I write volunteered his services, and by the aid of a Spad was hastened to the head of the column, and at a place selected beforeliand set in at once. The Spad made such good time that the sergeant gained the rest camp two days ahead of the first division. His staff of cooks and helpers arrived by the same means soon after. He wired the headquarters of the medical supply department to forward a trainload of field hospital ward tents, which came a few hours later.

Fourteen hundred of these large tents were put up end to end in a series of 14 rows, each row consisting of 100 tents, which made a mess hall under canvas 20 feet wide and 6,000 feet long, something over a mile in length, the 14 rows making in all about 13 miles of mess hall space. Twenty-six miles of tables were creeted, and in front of the 14 rows 1,750 field kitchens were lined up side by side so close they formed one long range about a mile and a half in length.

Twenty miles of light railway was laid in front and back of this range and through the 14 canvas mess halls, with a five-mile double-track spur running to the ration dump.

While this was being done, which took about ten minutes, the Q. M. creeted a huge sawmill nearby with a capacity of eutting 1,700 cords of firewood every hour, which would be needed to keep the griddles hot. The Engineers erected a series of 150 steam trip-hammers to mash potatoes. A circular ditch was dug having a circumference of about half a mile, 20 feet wide and about four feet deep, and this was lined on the bottom and each side with steel, and a battery of four tanks was employed to grind the

20 earloads of coffee dumped therein for each meal.

The stevedores in a pioneer regiment lined up a battery of 500 concrete mixers to stir the batter. The doughboys out of several outfits dug a trench 1,000 feet wide and a mile long in about 15 minutes to dump the eggshells in, which were earried away from the range by a series of 100 endless belts, each 2,000 yards long and traveling at the rate of 270 miles an hour.

Every ten minutes a 30-ear trainload of flour was unloaded into the mixers and a very large river a few miles away was literally taken out of its eourse and run through a giant flume in order to supply a sufficient quantity of water for the mixers and the 3,750 G. I. eans of coffee required each meal.

An airplane of the Handley-Page type, traveling at the rate of 360 miles an hour, would make regular half-minute trips over the whole length of the range, dragging a huge perforated drum containing, when full,

about 50,000 gallons of grease.

The batter was shot upon the griddles by a battery of 3,000 machine guns of a special type especially suited for this work, and they were operated by the 7,140 eooks and helpers employed in the kitchen. The eakes were turned by a device resembling a hay-turning machine, which was fastened on the rear of a Ford and made to travel up and down the range at full speed.

As the eakes were finished they were loaded on flatears and hauled by 16 light steam loeomotives into the 14 great mess tents, where a whole division on K. P. duty served them.

Syrup was supplied from a large tank suspended 60 feet in the air in the center of the camp. Pipe lines leading into each of the 1,400 tents from this tank, which held when full about 150,000 gallons of pure maple syrup, gave every soldier ample sweetness for his stack of hots.

Now you will agree with me that to direct such a huge enterprise as this it required brains, so the Signal Corps erected a telephone exchange requiring 500 operators, and by this system the entire feeding of a body of soldiers equal to the population of Pittsburgh was intelligently directed by his most modest mess sergeant while suspended in a basket beneath an observation balloon some thousand yards above the earth.

Everything was accomplished in a few hours, and as many as 200,000 soldiers could be fed every eight minutes and each receive as many as 20 flapjacks, if wanted, which was often done of a morning during their

week's rest.

I have omitted many facts about this great feeding eamp, but will say no more for fear of embarrassing the sergeant in charge. Maybe he will accept an invitation to participate in a flapjack baking contest, but owing to his modesty I am afraid he may decline, so with that I will close this little citation.

Elmer K. Patterson, F. H., A. O.

Letters from Readers

In one of the stories written by the editorial staff of The Stars and Stripes it was said that when any newspaper began receiving letters signed "Constant Reader," that it was a sure sign that it was a newspaper. The Stars and Stripes, before it had been in existence for six months began receiving such letters, and not only could it be determined that the writers were constant readers because they signed their names that way, but the eontents of the letters betrayed the fact even better. Thousands of letters were received daily by the Service Department of the paper, from soldiers who needed help. The paper had not been in circulation long before letters of approval, written mostly by the men themselves, began coming in. THE STARS AND STRIPES filled a need in their lives and they did not hesitate to express their appreciation and thanks to the editors. It will be noted that the signatures to the letters which are reproduced below, telling the editor what the men thought of the paper are in nearly every ease preceded by the military abbreviation, "Pvt.," which means that the men for whom the paper was intended were reading the paper and that they liked it.

The diplomatic skill of the editor may be recognized in his reply to Question No. 4,176,502. The letter from Pomeroy Burton, the Paris Administrator of the British War Mission to the United States is only one of many such commendatory notes received by the paper. The few letters from the States which space allows to be reproduced here give some idea of the reception accorded The Stars and Stripes at home.



FOR THE CENSOR



To THE STARS AND STRIPES:

I am glad to find in France a newspaper written and edited by and for our soldiers. Wisely managed, it can be a forum for their ideas, a means for each part of the American front to speak to all the others, a means for drawing closer together all the soldiers of the A. E. F. Good luck to The Stars and Stripes!

(Signed) NEWTON D. BAKER.

France, March 12.

FRENCH PAGE

It has been said that the entire Stars and Stripes was written by American soldiers. That is true save for one page in the issue of January 17, 1919. On that occasion all precedent of the Stars and Stripes was broken, for the complete page, excepting the advertising was written and made up by Poilus.

The staff of the trench paper of the 74th French Division of Infantry, called *Le Rire aux Eclats* which means "Explosions of Laughter," or "Laughter amid the explosions," as you prefer, sent the news matter and the form for setting it up. The page was turned over to the French contemporaries of the A. E. F. and was dedicated "Aux Americains avec les compliments de tous les Poilus."

That was the only deviation from the rule. At no other time did that amount of space ever go to any other but the American soldier. There were times when short stories which came from the pen of Australian, Canadian or English fighting men, were printed, but they were never more than a column in length.

QUESTION NO. 4,176,502

To the Editor of The Stars and Stripes:

I wish to take advantage of the knowledge of the staff of your paper by having them settle the question that is eausing so many arguments in the A. E. F. and elsewhere.

Which division did the best fighting on the

front?

Kindly publish in your paper at your earliest opportunity the standing of the different combat divisions. In doing this you will please the men of the A. E. F. and the folks back home.

CPL. M. J. DONOGHUE.

[We have two men in the hospital now. Can't stand any more easualties at present.—Ed.]

FROM A BRITISH EDITOR

To the Editor of The Stars and Stripes:

My hearty congratulations on the excellent papers you are getting out. It is sure to be a big and permanent success if you continue to maintain the standards you have already established.

Pomeroy Burton,

Paris Administrator,

British War Mission to the United States. February 20, 1918.

WHERE'S THIS VIOLIN?

To the Editor of THE STARS AND STRIPES:

Some time ago, knowing that I couldn't earry it much longer, I gave my violin to an ambulance driver in the Château-Thierry district. I told him to take it to a hospital for whoever could use it.

As I am now in the hospital myself, I would like to correspond with whoever has it, with

the idea of getting it again.

My old address is on the bottom of the case: Pvt. Harold A. Kirk, Co. L, — Inf. My present address is:

> PVT. HAROLD A. KIRK. Base Hospital 3, A. P. O. 705.

TO DECIDE A BET

To the Editor of The Stars and Stripes:

To decide a bet I would like to have you answer the following in your next issue: Can a first lieutenant, who, we will say, is a commander of a company, take two days' pay out of a private's wages without either a summary or general court martial? A says no officer can touch a private's wages without a court martial. B says it can be done. We will suppose said private was AWOL for two days.

PVT. J. MAHON, A.A.A.

[Pay eannot be taken out without the holding of a summary court martial or by the soldier's consent, in which case, as a disciplinary measure, his pay can be forfeited.— Editor.]

BRITAIN'S PREMIER GREETS A. E. F.

I have read with the greatest interest the first numbers of The Stars and Stripes which you have so very kindly sent me.

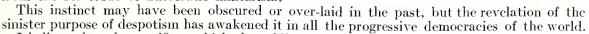
It is an excellent thought to meet the needs

of the troops in this way.

I welcome the opportunity of sending greetings to the brave soldiers of America, who are now in line with their Allies in France, doing battle for the great cause of human justice and freedom.

Their presence, side by side with the soldiers of France and Britain, is no fortuitous alliance, formed merely for the purposes of war

It is, in truth, the expression of an abiding instinct for the assertion of right against might, and for the deliverance of civilization from the servitude of autocratic militarism.

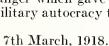


I believe that the sacrifices which the soldiers of America are now making for the common cause are producing an unity of understanding and purpose with the allied peoples which will knit them permanently together to the immeasurable good of the world even after the victory for freedom has been obtained.

It is this acceptance of common duties and common sacrifices in the face of a common danger which gave us the victory over those selfish and parochial aims which encouraged a

military autocracy to attempt to seize universal power.

(Signed) D. LLOYD GEORGE.



"HONOR TO THEIR VALOR" SAYS FRANCE'S PREMIER OF AMERICANS

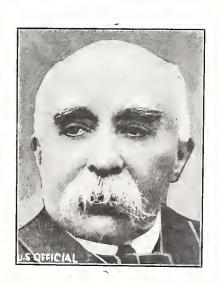
To The Stars and Stripes:

Last September, I said to several of your magnificent soldiers whose guest I was: "You are going to be called upon to make a great effort and to fulfill it, perhaps, at a cost of your life. We can feel only gratitude and friendship for you who have come from afar to help us."

Today we have seen them at their task. Men who have served with impassioned zeal the Democratic Ideal we want to save.

They are worthy of their great forbears. Honor to their valor!

(Signed) Georges Clemenceau.





32 Rue Taitbout, last home of "The Stars and Stripes."

The Funny Bone of the A. E. F.

The Kansas City Journal, in a review of the first eopy of The Stars and Stripes brought to the attention of the editor wrote:

"There is a significant abundance of "funny stuff," little jests and jingles, jokes and quips, which might not sell to the American "funny" magazines, but which testify eloquently to the American soldier's lightheartedness, as well as

to the necessity of laughing at a time when tears would be more natural.

"To laugh as one stands on the brink of hell and gazes down into the pit of torture and suffering does not betoken indifference, but quite the reverse. The preservation of reason and of the sublime purpose which animates the men in khaki demand these laughs which mask the righteous curses that are directed toward the barbarous enemy."

THE CURTAIN! QUICK!!!

Corporal: Say, Sarge, in what state would a man be if he fell into the river Seine?

Sergeant: A wet state, I guess.

Corporal: No, insane. (Corporal now a private).

THEY PUZZLE HIM

"These French streets," said Private Jones, "sure are a puzzle. You never know where you are on one of them and they change their name every block or so. I was walking along one named the Rue Marcher au paz the other day, and I looked up and found its name changed to Gardez votre droite, and two blocks farther I'll be hanged if it didn't change again to the Rue Défense d'Afficher.'

ONE WAY TO LOOK AT IT

"He hasn't been paid in eight months." "Gee, the lucky stiff!"

Should socks be worn inside the pants Or out? There seems some doubt, For though I find I wear mine in, I always wear them out.

HIGH FINANCE

Corporal Bilkins had arrived in France after a few days in England.

"How much money have you got left?"

asked Corporal Wilkins.

"Well, I've got four shillings, a quid, two farthings, nine pennies, a franc, half a pound, four sous and 50 centimes, but I've only got two dollars in cash.'

WELL, CAN YOU?

To the Editor of The Stars and Stripes: See if you can catch Capt. Cook kicking cute cooties 'cross khaki cricket coats.

F. M. H. D., F. A.

PILLANTHROPY

Syl (at the hospital): That little nurse kinda likes mc.

Bill (next bed): Why so?

Syl: She gave the others one calomel pill, and she gave me a couple.

THE FRIENDLESS BONNET

Slim—Speaking of that overseas cap, do you like it?

Hank—Not any more than my face, but God gave me one, and the Government the other.

"Say, feller, where's the field kitchen?"

"Over in that wood yonder."

"Well, whatnell is a field kitchen doin' in a wood?"

HOW YOU FEEL



By Wally.

When You Unsling Your Pack at the End of A Twenty-Mile Hike

FIFTY-FIFTY

Private: Say, Sarge, you know those shoes you gave me?

Supply Sergeant: Well, what about em? Private: Well, one of 'em matches all right, but the other doesn't.

ANOTHER TOP STORY

When the company was falling in in alphabetical order, the old top became somewhat irritated at one private who seemed to be wandering around loose.

'Hey, there, what's your name?"

"Phillips."

"Well, get the hell up there with the F's where you belong."

EASY TO IDENTIFY

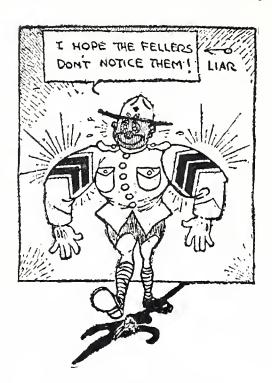
"Say, a feller was around here lookin' for you just now."

"Zasso? What'd he look like?"
"Lessee. Come to think of it, he had on spiral leggins and a pair of O.D. pants.

Buck: Say, these here now kings of France weren't much on rank, was they?

Corporal: How's that, buddie?

Buck: Why, they was most of them Louis's.



CORP'RAL'S CHEVRONS

Oh, the General with his epaulets, leadin' a parade,

The Colonel and the Adjutant a-sportin' of their braid,

The Major and the Skipper—none of 'em look so fine

As a newly minted corp'ral, comin' down the line!

Oh, the Bishop in his mitre, pacin' up the aisle,

The Governor, frock-coated, with a votes-forwomen smile,

The Congressman, the Mayor, aren't in it, I opine,

With a newly minted corp'ral, comin' down the line!

AROUND THE POKER BUNK

First Player: That guy that's doing all the winning docsn't know the game at all. Every time anyone says "I pass" he says "Lessee'em."

Second Player: Well, that's because he's an M. P. when he ain't working.

TWENTY YEARS AFTER

Middle-aged male customer: Let me have three suits of underwear.

Clerk: Size, please?

M.A.M.C.: Anything at all. I used to be in the Army.

HEALTH HINTS

By Dr. C. C. Pill, M. C.

N. Y. D.—If you are unable to find a Army dentist with enough equipment to dispose of your dental difficulties, brush your teeth violently with iodine every morning for three days and then have them all pulled out.

F. E. A.—It can hardly be claimed that your indigestion existed prior to enlistment, even if the eggs you ate did. Try painting the cook with iodine.

S. O. L.—This query will have to be answered by courier, as the censorship forbids all reference to troop movements. In the meantime, paint yourself with iodine.

R. T. O.—Unfortunately, the itch cannot justify us in recommending an S. C. D., as we have to have somebody left in the Army. However, you will probably be demobilized before you are cured anyway, if that is any comfort to you. As for iodine—ay, there's the rub.

S. T. B.—Paint it with iodine.

M. P.—Your description of the top sergeant suggests forcibly that he is suffering from delusions—probably a case of manic depressive insanity, brought on by worry. Most of them are. Try spilling iodine on your service record.

A. A. W., C. L. B., S. H. C.—See answer to S. T. B.

HADN'T HE EARNED IT?

This happened at Scratchville-by-the-Sea. Lots of things happen there, but this is really out of the ordinary.

The major was making his inspection, weaving in and out among the "picked" men, when a wag called out:

"Say, Doctor, don't you think I oughter get a decoration?"

"I don't know," retorted the dignitary, laughing: "why?"

"Well, it seems to me it's worth it. I just captured a cootie with seven service stripes on him!"

OLD AND NEW STYLE—NO. 1

In camp back home: Sir, I have the First Scrgeant's permission to speak to the Captain.

In billets over here: Sir, the Top told me I could speak to you about this here.

In the trenches: Say, Captain—.



Business Office at 32 Rue Taitbout.

The Financial Department

The Stars and Stripes was required by General Headquarters of the A. E. F., to render a strict accounting of all money received, and to report minutely the expenditure of all income. The burden of the work fell on the Finance Department, which was in charge of a commissioned officer. The first officer to assume the responsibility of Treasurer was Lieut. Adolph S. Ochs, Jr., of *The Chattanooga Times*. He had a most capable assistant in the person of Regimental Sergeant Major David R. Sterrett, of Pittsburgh, Pa.

The Financial Department received all money remitted by field agents for cash sale of the paper, and subscriptions, and payments from agencics which handled the advertising for The Stars and Stripes. In order to keep a strict accounting of all receipts it was necessary to have a complete system of books, and it required the services of several other soldiers as assistants to do this

work properly.

When The Stars and Stripes suspended publication more than \$700,000 was on deposit to the credit of the paper in a Paris bank. This entire amount was turned over to The General Headquarters of the A. E. F. by Lieut. William C. Waltman, who had succeeded Lieut. Ochs as Treasurer, and was finally transferred to The U. S. Treasury Department, where it still remains. A bill has been introduced in Congress to give his money to the French War Orphans, but so far no final action has been taken, and the money earned by The Stars and Stripes has never been spent.

The Advertising Department

The Advertising Department of The Stars and Stripes was organized before the appearance of the first issue, and although but little time was given the manager to collect a great amount of copy, a very creditable showing was made. The first advertising manager was Lieut. William K. Michael, who remained in that capacity until the summer of 1918, when he was succeeded by Lieut. R. Fendrick, who was assisted by Sergeant George E. Mulvany, Sergeant Harold Sigmund and Corporal Saul Goldberg.

The advertising representative for Great Britain was the Dorland Agency, Ltd., 16 Regent St., London, S.W. 1, and for the United States and Canada A. W. Erickson, 381 Fourth Ave., New York City. The national advertisers in the United States found in The Stars and Stripes an excellent medium through which to introduce their products to a great body of men who were to return to America at the end of the war and who would represent the great majority of America's purchasing power for years to come. The advertising carried in The Stars and Stripes was of such an unimpeachable character that it needed no recommendation or guarantee from the staff. It may be said that the advertisers who used the paper were not actuated wholly by a patriotic desire to help along such a good project as The Stars and Stripes but that they found the paper's huge circulation list of 526,000, more than 70,000 of which was in this country an excellent means to promote the sale of their wares.

Circulation Department

It has already been stated that the French and British had attempted an official newspaper for their armies but that the attempts had failed mainly because of the difficulty encountered in delivering the papers to the soldiers, fighting on a long front and over ground torn by war. The Americans, however, worked out a system by which they were able to deliver the papers to the men for whom it was intended on time and regularly. It took no little time to work out such a system and it took no little work to keep it in operation after it was inaugurated.

In the first place it was necessary to have men engaged in distributing the paper who knew their business. It was the policy of The Stars and Stripes from the beginning to accept no one for work with the paper if he had not had newspaper experience in the States. This made it possible for the paper to have men at Paris who knew their business and it was not a difficult task to select the best from the many applicants. Any man who did not make good at the work to which he was assigned was given another job and if he failed on that he was returned to his outfit.

It was also necessary to have good men in the field to distribute the paper to the different divisions and units, some of which were engaged in actual fighting at the time. A large staff of field agents was organized who were assigned to divisions, regiments, units, areas or hospital eenters. It was their duty to solicit customers among the outfit to which they were assigned and order the number of copies they could dispose of, collect payment for them, and forward the money, together with all papers which they could not sell to the Paris office. These agents had a total 91 cars of their own which they used in distributing the paper to their customers.

THE STARS AND STRIPES was aided in getting the paper to all the men in France by Hachette Cie., one of the largest newspaper distributing concerns in France. All of the bundles for the field agents were wrapped, with the help of men from The Stars and STRIPES office, at the plant of this company, and shipped from there by railway express to the nearest railroad station to the agent for whom they were intended. The agent, knowing about when his papers were due, came down to the railroad station in his machine, waited for the train, and when it came loaded his papers and left for the unit to which he was to deliver the papers. This was often quite a distance from the railroad station and the roads were not always in the pink of condition. Then he went to work distributing the paper, and many times did it under fire. There were many thrilling tales to tell when these fellows got together, of shells bursting all about their flivvers, and tearing up the landscape within sight while they were peacefully doing the newsboy act. In some areas there were a number of agents stationed.

Not too much can be said for the men who were responsible for getting the paper to its readers. That there were no casualties among them was more a matter of good luck than a shirking of duty under any conditions



Addressograph and Mailing Departments.



French officers, shortly after crossing the Rhine, reading "The Stars and Stripes."

or eireumstanees. On the very day on which the Armisticc was signed, Sgt. Joe Daly, Q. M. C., the head of the Transportation Department of The Stars and Stripes went a little too far with the papers he was taking to the men and was eaptured by the Germans. It can be said of all men responsible for the appearance and the distribution of The STARS AND STRIPES that they were actuated more by the love of their work than by the hope of reward or the fear of punishment. Theirs was the same spirit which inspired all of America's soldiers in the war, and the bit they did was as important as that of the most widely heralded hero at the front.

Haehette and Cie. distributed the paper to out of the way places all over France, and put it on sale in places where only a few American troops were located, and where it was not practicable to place a field agent. The part which this company played in giving The Stars and Stripes the general distribution which it enjoyed was an important

factor in its popularity.

Captain Riehard H. Waldo, formerly of The New York Times came with The Stars AND STRIPES in April, 1918. He was a newspaper man of long experience, and immediately set about devising plans for increasing eireulation. He was the originator of the eoupon system of eash sales which met with great suecess. By this system, a sheet of coupons, each of a value of 8 francs was sold to soldiers by the field agents. This system had several advantages. First, the eash received in advance for eopies of the paper enabled the development of the work by bringing in the receipts in a lump form. Second, when a soldier bought one of the eoupon sheets he was sure of getting The Stars and Stripes for weeks, even if Lady Luck wasn't with him on payday night. Third, it lightened the burden of eollecting by the field agents, and made the work in the financial department of the home office easier. When Captain Waldo left the paper in the fall of 1918 he was succeeded by Lieut. Milton J. Ayers, who earried the work he had started to a sueeessful eompletion. Captain Waldo and Lieutenant Ayers were both assisted, during the time they headed the Circulation Department of The STARS AND STRIPES, by Regimental Sergeant Major Melvin Ryder, who had eharge of all the field agents at the front; Regimental Sergeant Majors Riehard S. Jones and Stuart Carroll who had charge of the agents in the S. O. S. and Base Ports. These men were responsible for all the papers shipped to the agents under their supervision.

The total number of paid in advance yearly subscriptions earried by The Stars and Stripes was, at its highest figure, about 70,000. Nearly all of these yearly subscriptions were to people in the United States and were sent by soldiers. The men themselves rarely subscribed by the year, as they were never sure of being in any one place for a great length of time. However, field agents were authorized to accept yearly subscriptions and it was through them that most of the subscriptions sent home were made.

The Addressograph Department

A system for the purpose of addressing all subscriptions going to the States was necessary in order to eliminate all the extra work incident to addressing the wrappers on typewriters as it was done in the beginning. The Addressograph system was the only available addressing system on the market in France and as soon as the installation of a modern method was approved, the Addressograph system was immediately put in. The highly satisfactory results obtained from the use of this system justified the claims of its supporters.

The new system was put in charge of Sergeant Nestor J. Born, who was later succeeded by Sergeant Thomas R. Healy, who stayed with the company until it was disbanded at Camp Mills. These two men, during the time they had charge of this system of The Stars and Stripes addressed weekly more than 70,000 single subscriptions to persons in the United States.

Mailing Department

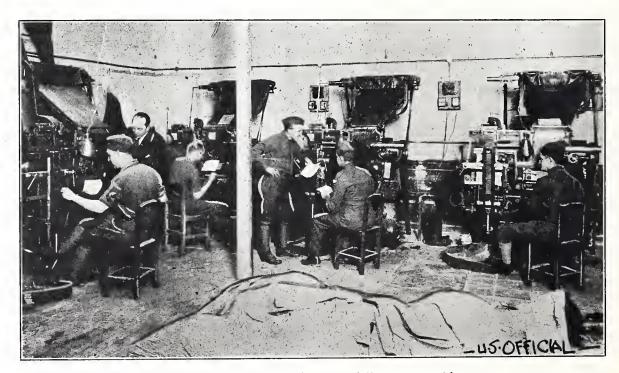
It is easily understood that in order to get out the great number of papers that were sent from Paris each week by The Stars and Stripes it was necessary to have an efficient mailing department. This department, carly in the spring of 1918 was put in charge of Sergeant Earl E. Riley, of the 9th Inf., who was an experienced mailer. Later Sgt. Riley was transferred to The Criminal Investigation Bureau, and Sergeant Harry L. Katz, of Boston, Mass., who had seen years of experience with weekly and daily publications in the United States, took charge of the work. The magnitude of the work will be more fully realized when it is known that each of the 70,000 subscriptions sent to the United States had to be wrapped singly, and

that all the mailing of samples, books published by The Stars and Stripes, all orders for extra copies and back copies were taken care of in this department. A force of from 10 to 15 enlisted men was kept busy in the mailing department all of the time. A plan for installing an up-to-date American system of mailing was submitted by Sgt. Katz soon after he became connected with this department, but because of the difficulty encountered in obtaining the necessary machinery and the paper used for that purpose, the plan was never put into working order.

The Transportation Department

All of the automobiles, ninety-one in number, which were used by the field agents in distributing the paper, by the correspondents who travelled from point to point in the A. E. F. and by members of the staff stationed at the office in Paris, were directly in charge of Sergeant Joseph G. Daly, who knew the number of every car assigned to The Stars and Stripes and was able to give the location of every car at any time. He was responsible for the proper care of the cars used and ordered all repairs necessary to keep them in good condition.

His work was highly important for the reason that prompt delivery of the paper was necessary to make it valuable to the men, and it would have been impossible to get it out if the cars were not in prime condition. It was up to the field agents to keep their cars in good shape and if they did not they were pretty sure to hear from Sergeant Joe.



"The Stars and Stripes" battery of linotype machines.

In and Around the Office

Henry E. Lammers, known familiarly as "Red," was the official mail orderly for The Stars and Stripes from early in the summer of 1918 until the paper suspended publication. Mail received by The Stars and Stripes and all mail dispatched through American and French post offices was handled by "Red." He was the connecting link between home and the members of The Stars and Stripes Staff in Paris.

Corporal George P. Wrench, who was the official courier for The Stars and Stripes probably made more trips across the English Channel on tug boats and submarine chasers than any other man in the A. E. F. He made weekly trips from Paris to London, carrying the papers which were sent to American soldiers stationed in England. He also carried all official documents to and from Paris.

The Stars and Stripes, published by Americans in a country where the English language was not spoken to any great extent, found it necessary to employ the services of an interpreter to make possible intelligent communication with the French business men, and any French citizens who called at the office of the paper. Robert S. Dilly, a disabled French soldier, rendered valuable services, both as an interpreter and as a guide.



Major Mark S. Watson, who succeeded Major Viskniskki as officer in charge. Major Watson was assisted by Capt. Stephen T. Early.



Making up The Final Issue.



Supply Department.

From left-R. S. M. Nicholas Beser, Capt. Harry Parker, and Supply Sgt. J. Weinstein.

Supply Department and the Canteen

THE STARS AND STRIPES Staff was supplied with all equipment necessary by a supply department which was in charge of men assigned to duty with the paper, and a canteen, carrying a full line of everything that was for sale by American commissaries in France was operated at the office, and the men were given the opportunity of buying cigarettes, cigars, candy, chocolate, jam, sugar, coffee, and other articles which they had considered necessities at home, but which, without the cooperation of the War Department would have been unobtainable luxuries in France. The last man who had charge of the canteen was Scrgeant Jack Weinstein, who came with the paper carly in 1919 and supplied the soldier journalists all the way through to Camp Mills, Long Island, N. Y.

Censor and Press Company No. 1

The Censor and Press Company No. 1, which was made up of the members of The Stars and Stripes Staff in Paris was a different organization from other military units in more ways than one. As practically all of the men drew commutation of quarters and rations it was necessary to have a strict accounting on all vouchers made out in payment of this commutation. This work was

handled by Regimental Sergeant Major Nicholas Beser. He worked under the direction of Captain Harry L. Parker, the commanding officer of the company. Sergeant Beser was virtually Captain Parker's assistant. Licutenant Donald R. Brenton was second in command of the company, and he was well liked by the men in the command.

When the order suspending the publication came from G. H. Q., preparations were made at once to return the company to the States as a unit. On June 15, 1919, two days after the paper suspended publication, every man assigned to the company had reported to Captain Parker.

On June 17, they were assembled at Clignancourt Barracks. After a night journey on the French Victory Flier they reached Brest, and on the first of July they saw the shores of La Belle France fade from sight from the decks of the U. S. Transport *Pretoria*. On the 13th of July the company landed at Hoboken and went to Camp Mills. Camp Mills was the last place where the entire staff was assembled as a whole, the company being broken up into Casual Companies there, and sent to the camp nearest their homes for discharge.

So passed an organization that had made history of an everlasting quality and who had materially aided its country in a time of need.

The First Issue

The first issue of The Stars and Stripes appeared on February 8, 1918. The paper stock was supplied by La Societe Anonyme des Papeteries Darblay and the mechanical work and printing was done at the plant of the Continental edition of The London Daily Mail, at 36 Rue de Sentier, Paris. The composition and makeup continued to be done at this plant until the paper was suspended, but in August 1918, the printing, which had by that time run up to 170,000 copies became too much for The Daily Mail and was from that time on done at the plant of Le Journal, a French daily newspaper, which owned one of the largest and best equipped printing plants in Europe. White newsprint paper, at all times a scarce article in France became so scarce after January, 1919, that it was necessary to bring paper from the United States to use for the printing of The Stars and Stripes. At different times consignments of Canadian paper were received from England.

The composition was the work of American soldiers. The engraving was done by French workmen, and at different times both English and French pressmen ran the editions off.

The first issue of The Stars and Stripes was supposed to have had a total circulation of 30,000. However, it was far short of this

total, perhaps not more than 60 per cent of that number having been printed. The same men who wrote the stories addressed the copies and bundles for mailing, and carried them to the post office. The perfect mailing system of The Stars and Stripes was not in existence at that time. The total number of American soldiers to be supplied was only about 300,000, and they were scattered widely over France. There was not yet a well organized distributing force at work, and the delivery of the paper was greatly handicapped. However, a copy managed to reach nearly every soldier overseas at that time, and was received joyfully by the men who were glad to see something that reminded them so forcefully of home.

The Final Issue

The final issue of The Stars and Stripes appeared on June 13, 1919. It had been in existence for more than sixteen months and during that time had amassed a profit of more than \$700,000 and had reached a total circulation of more than 526,000 copies, 70,000 of which were paid subscriptions sent by soldiers to persons in the United States, the remainder being taken by soldiers of the A. E. F.

The serious shortage of white newsprint paper all over the world was the direct cause



First papers off the press starting for the men in hospitals. These were distributed by the American Red Cross.

for the discontinuance of The Stars and Stripes. White paper stock was at all times during the life of the paper a hard thing to get, but with the close of the war, and the resumption of business on a larger seale in all the eountries engaged it became well nigh impossible to get it at all. The size of the A. E. F. had eonsiderably dwindled by this time, and the headquarters of the American Forces in Germany had been established. These men, who were to be the last to leave Europe were already being supplied with news by their own newspaper, The Amaroc News, which had shortly before begun publication, and the need which had been the eause for the ineeption of The Stars and Stripes was practically at an end.

One of the members of THE STARS AND STRIPES editorial staff prepared a lengthy farewell article, bidding good-bye to the men whom the paper had served and reviewing at some length its work and achievements. His article was entitled "Bugler Walsh Sounds Taps With This Issue." The story was a fitting sequel to the editorial entitled "To The Colors," which had appeared in the first issue more than a year before. Their pledges in that editorial fulfilled, the staff of The Stars and Stripes emerged from the obscurity which they had assumed and obtruded their own views and the personalities of some of their members on the readers of the paper. The Editorial Staff solemnly pledged that the

paper, when folded away should remain a memory of the past, their contribution to the memory of the men who had read it and died for liberty, as well as to those who had fought well and returned home to enjoy the fruits of their victory.

However, there was one man who was on the original staff of The Stars and Stripes who did not bind himself to this pledge, and eoming home before the last issue was published overseas he began publishing an Ameriean edition of The Stars and Stripes in Washington, D. C. This newspaper, still ealled The Stars and Stripes is still in existence.

Pictorial Supplement

The first, and of necessity the last pietorial supplement published with The Stars and Stripes appeared with the final issue. A especial Baldridge eartoon entitled "The Dawn," which showed American soldiers, their task completed, with arms outstretched toward the glorious West whence they had come. The photographs depicted the changes which came about from the time the first American outfit arrived in France to the departure of a transport from Brest with the first contingent of Yanks homeward bound.

The arrangement of the euts was the work of Hal Burrows, an artist, whose Joan of Are, in one of the later issues had eaused such favorable comment.



By Wally.



The Stars and Stripes First "Newsy"

No history of The Stars and Stripes would be complete unless it mentioned specifically Daniel Sowers, familiarly known to the members of the staff as "Li'l Dan'l", the 350-pound infant who first saw the light of day among the hills of West Virginia, and whose love for his native haunts is so great that he may be found there to this day. When the war broke out Dan'l was safely ensconced in a secretarial position with the government of his native state but heeding the call of duty, in a moment of reckless disregard for his life or safety volunteered his services as a field clerk.

The opening of our story finds him selling copies of the first issue of The Stars and Stripes to every mother's son he met at G. H. Q., Chaumont, ranking from generals to acting buck privates. If it had not been for The Stars and Stripes it is possible that the world would never have known nor "little recked" of the ability of "Li'l Dan'l" to dispel the gloom with his sunny smile or to separate soldiers from their "frankies" for a newspaper. The staff of The Stars and Stripes felt such an everlasting gratitude to Dan for bringing their publication so well into popular notice that every time he visited Paris he was always attached to the staff for rations and for safe guidance and conduct among the perils of the city, for be it known that although he weighed little less than John Bunny at his best his blooming innocence made him a shining mark for every wild woman in "gay Paree."

Although Dan Sowers was never officially attached to the staff of The Stars and Stripes he had an important assignment in connection with it, for he handled all correspondence in reference to The Stars and Stripes at G. H. Q., where he had a desk in the same building with Pershing and other things lights of the A. F. F.

shining lights of the A. E. F.

It might be said of Dan Sowers that no one in the A. E. F. owned a bigger body or a bigger heart than the one which beat beneath his O. D. jacket. He was everybody's friend, and after they had known him for five minutes every man he met was Dan's friend for life. Dan is back in civil life now and is still a familiar figure at the office of The Stars and Stripes when he periodically emerges from the seclusion of the hills to greet his old A. E. F. friends, and to swap reminiscences of the days when he and Jimmy Britt represented more avoirdupois than any six major generals in the army.

THE MASCOT

Bliss was devoted to "Rags," a French setter dog, whom he made his inseparable eompanion in France. Wherever Bliss went, "Rags" followed. His devotion for "Rags" was shared by the staff of The Stars and Stripes. "Rags" was brought back with the eompany as maseot of the paper. What Tip thought of "Rags" was shown by the following poem which appeared in one of the issues.

THE MASCOT SPEAKS

They say I can't go back with him,
They say we dogs are banned.
They told him that. They didn't think
That I could understand.

I've had him pretty near a year, Since I was just a pup. I used to be a sort of bum, And then—he pieked me up.

We've slept together in the rain,
And snow, too, quite a lot.
Cold nights we kept each other warm,
Some days we ate—some not.

Onee he went to the hospital.

I followed. They said, "No."
He swore a lot and told the doe
Unless I stayed, he'd go.

He's going to go home pretty soon And leave me here—oh well— I wonder if dogs have a heav'n? I know we've got a hell.

DEN/LL.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES Second Section. General Staff.

June 10, 1919.

TO THE MEMBERS OF "THE STARS AND STRIPES" STAFF:

The issue of June 13th has been selected by the Commandor-in-Chief as the final issue of THE STARS AND STRIPES.

On that date, or as soon thereafter as possible, your services with the A. E. F. and its official newspaper will terminate. It is my pleasure and duty, therefore, to give you this farewell expression of gratitude and appreciation which I know to be very intensely felt by the whole A. E. F. and to be inspired by the splendid publication your labors gave it.

Individual thanks cannot be given each of you any more than they can be given each of the 2,000,000 in the A. E. F. but this letter to you all collectively will, I hope, assure you of the regard in which you are held.

Certainly, no other newspaper was over born of a greater need than was THE STARS AND STRIPES. Equally certain is it that no other newspaper ever served its needs with more loyalty and ability. To bring oheer, smiles, news from home, news from places of interest in the land they were fighting in, to 2,000,000 men thousands of miles from the United States and, in addition, to encourage these men to fight with smiles and confidence was a fraction of the needs your labors supplied.

How well you accomplished this task is attested in the records of General Headquarters. It will be recorded for posterity in the war histories to be written. It is already written, but unofficially, in hundreds of letters received by this office -- letters which, in their praise of your work, might be summarized as proclaiming THE STARS AND STRIPES as the literary landmark of the war, founded by and for the American soldier. It is my wish to add this personal tribute to these on file and to make of official record an appreciation of the distinguished services you have rendered.

Official copy to:-

Sgt. Harry L. Katz.

Frontan Bry Ben 45.4.







Men Who Helped Make "The Stars and Stripes"

The men of the A. E. F. who, at one time or another, have worked on The Stars and Stripes and contributed to its success are listed below in alphabetical order, with their home addresses.

These men were obtained for service on the paper after a canvass of the whole A. E. F., a process in which the qualification cards filled out at replacement depots and reclassification camps played an important part. Some were recommended by their C.O.'s for service with us and some applied.

These lists are printed to give due credit in future years to the men who helped make possible one of the most interesting experiments in American journalism.

ACKERMAN, Henry H., Pvt. Philadelphia, Pa.

ADAMS, Franklin P., Capt.

New York, N. Y. ADAMS, Kenneth C., Sgt. Maj. Sacramento, Calif.

AGEN, Meyer, Pvt. 1st Cl.
Brooklyn, N. Y.

AYERS, Milton J., 1st Lt., Inf. New York.

BABBITT, Donald G., 1st Lt., Inf.

Bellows Falls, Vt. BAILEY, Seth T., Sgt. Portland, Orc.

BALABAN, Sydney, Pvt.

Chicago, Ill. BALDRIDGE, C. LeRoy, Pvt.

San Diego, Calif. BARRY, Arthur W., Pvt. 1st Cl.

Whittier, Calif. BARTON, Frank W., Sgt.

Portland, Ore.

BASSETT, Horace Y., Pvt. 1st Cl.

Coatesville, Pa. BACHELOR, Louis R., Cpl. Goshen, Ind.

BAUKHAGE, Hilmar R., 2d Lt., F.A.

New York City. BEATTY, Edgar, Pvt. 1st Cl.

Chicago, Ill. BECKMAN, Edward L., Cpl.

Ottawa, Ohio. BEDDOR, Frank, Pvt.

Minneapolis, Minn. BEER, Harold C., Sgt. Clinton, Mass.

BERGH, Sigurd U., Pvt. 1st Cl

St. Paul, Minn. BERNARD, August L., Sgt.

Erie, Pa. BESER, Nicholas, R.S.M.

Cincinnati, Ohio. BLACK, John, Cpl.

Brooklyn, N. Y.

BLISS, D. L., Sgt. Berkeley, Calif. BLISS, Tyler H., Sgt.

Hartford, Conn. BOETJER, William G., Pvt.

Hannibał, Mo. BONDY, Edward W., Pvt. Baltimore, Md.

BONNETT, Fred J., Cpl.

Hoboken, N. J. BORCHERS, Harold, Pvt. San Francisco, Calif.

BORN, Nestor J., Sgt. Evansville, Ind.

BOTTORFF, Donald, Cpl. Charlestown, Ind.

BRADY, Richard W., Cpl. New York City.

BRENTON, Donald R., 2d Lt., Inf.

Chicago, Ill.

BRISTOL, Claude M., Sgt.

Portland, Ore.

BRYSON, George T., 2d Lt., A.S. Richmond, Va.

BUCHER, John M., A.F.C.

Washington, D. C. BRITT, George W. B., A.F.C. New Bedford, Mass.

BURCHILL, Arthur H., Cpl. Chicago, Ill. BURKE, Walter J., Pvt.

New York City

BURROWS, Harold L., Sgt.

Salt Lake City, Utah. BURTON, Edgar R., Pvt. 1st Cl.

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BURNETT, Verne E., Sgt.
Homer, Mich.
BUSSIUS, Charles J., Sgt.

Washington, D. C. BYRON, Daniel E., Cpl.

Providence, R. I. CALLIS, Richard M., Cpl.

Dundas, Va.

CANNON, Percy F., Pvt. Chicago, Ill.

CARROLL, Joseph W., Pvt. San Francisco, Calif.

CARROLL, Leonard M., Sgt. Kansas City, Mo.

CARROLL, Stuart H., Q.M. Sgt., S. G. Kansas City, Mo.

CASHEN, John L., Sgt.

Cohoes, N. Y.
CHARMAN, Elbert B., Cpl.
Oregon City, Ore.

CLAIBÖRNE, Richard S., Sgt.

Rusk, Tex.
CLARY, Thomas M., R.S. Maj.
New York City.

CLOWER, Clarence E., Pvt. New York City.

COLEMAN, Nelson E., Cpl.

Pittsburgh, Pa. CONKLIN, Clarence C., Cpl. New York City.

CONLEE, C. S, Pvt.

Bryan, Tex. CONNOLLY, Jack S., Cpl. Newton Lower Falls, Mass.

CORCORAN, Paul B., Sgt. New York City. CRITCHLOW, Harry B.,

Sgt. 1st Cl.

CUE, Merl K., Pvt. Frankfort, Ind.

CUSHING, Charles R., 1st Lt. New York City.

CUTHBERTSON, A. J., Pvt.

Denver, Colo.

CUMMING, J. P., 2d Lt.

Florence, Ala.

DE GRANGE, Joseph, 2d Lt., F. A.

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New York City DALEY, Richard D., Cpl.

Seattle, Wash. DARLING, Chester A., Cpl.

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GAYLORĎ, Donald D., Cpl. Branford, Conn.

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GERMAIN, William F., Sgt.

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PALMER, Thomas W., Cpl. Oakland, Calif. PARKER, Harry L., Capt., A.S.C. Spartanburg, S. C. PARR, John E., Cpl. Baltimore, Md. PARRY, Duke N., Cpl. Kansas City, Mo. PATREY, Harry B., Sgt. Adrian, Mich. PENDLAND, William E., Cpl. Auburn, Ind. PENNY, George A. Sgt.
Buffalo, N. Y.
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Cleveland, Ohio. PLANT, Marlowe H., Clp.

New York City.

POST, Levi A. Sgt. Stanfordville, N. Y. PRENDERGAST, J. S., Cpl. York, Pa. PRINTZ, Arthur, Sgt. Cleveland, Ohio. PROSSER, Alfred L., R.S.M. Brooklyn, N. Y.
RAPPAPORT, Louis, A. S. C.
New York City.
RADDANT, George T., Sgt. Shawano, Wis. RHODES, Wallace W., Sgt. Atlanta, Ga. RICE, Grantland, 1st Lt. New York City. RICHARD, Jesse L., Sgt. Waco, Tex. RIGNEY, FRANK P., Cpl. Providence, R. I. RILEY, Earl E., Sgt. Lincoln, Nebr. RILEY, James F., Pvt. ROCK, Dallas, Pvt. Morrisonville, N. Y. RODD, Harry C., Sgt. ROGERS, Wilson, B.S.M. Baltimore, Md. ROSS, Harold W., Pyt. Salt Lake City, Utah. ROWE, Walter S. R.S.M. Hami'ton, Ohio. RUBLE, Lloyd J., 1st Sgt. Amity, Ore. RYAN, Patrick J., Pvt. New York City. RYDER, Clayton M., Sgt. Minneapolis, Minn. RYDER, Melvin, R.S.M. Steubenville, Ohio. SANGSTER, George M., Sgt. Brooklyn, N. Y. SCHENCK, Ferdinand, Sgt. SCHIEBLE, Raymond M., Cpl. Chicago, Ill. SCHNEIDER, Harry, Cpl. San Francisco, Cal. SCHNEIDER, M. H., Pvt. SCHWARTZ, Fred, Pvt., 1st Cl. New York City. SCHWARZKOPF, Otto, Pvt. Lyndhurst, Wis. SHALLENBERGER, Geo., Sgt. Miami, Fla. SCOTT, J. John, Sgt. Amsterdam, N. Y SHEPARD, Herbert O, Cpl. Wrentham, Mass. SIGMUND, Harold, Sgt. New York City SIGWALT, Harold P., Sgt. Milwaukec, Wis. SLAGHT, Arthur J., Cpl. Oakland, Cal. SLATOR, William J., Sgt. 1st Cl.
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Los Angeles, Cal.
SMITH, Homer S., A.F.C.
Pawnee City, Nebr.
SMITH, J. W. Rixey, Sgt.
Racio City, Vo. Basic City, Va. SMITH, Leslie H., Cpl.

SMITH, Harley A., 2d Lt. Hamilton, Ala. SNAJDR, Robert I., Sgt.

Cleveland, Ohio.

SNEVILY, Henry N., 1st Lt.

New York City. SPAHR, Clarence E., Pvt. San Diego, Cal.

SPIERO, Gerald B., Cpl.

New York City. STACK, Robert M., Pvt. STANLEY, Harold B., Sgt. Rocky Ford, Colo.

STEPPE, Joseph H., Cpl. St. Louis, Mo. STERRETT, David R., R.S.M.

Pittsburgh, Pa.

STONER, Harry, Pvt. Gallen, Ohio. STOUT, Thomas W., Cpl.

Springfield, Ill. STUARDI, Norman E., Sgt.

Mobile, Ala. STURR, Thomas W., Pvt.

Springfield, Ohio SULLIVAN, David F., Cpl.

Worcesterd, Mass. SUNDIN, Hjalmar, Pvt. New Bedford, Mass.

SWEENEY, Arthur V., Sgt. Providence. R. I.

THOMAS, A. R., Sgt. TOSTEVIN, Earle H., Pvt. 1st Cl.

Memdin, N. D. TRUSLOW, Harold M., Sgt. Brooklyn, N. Y.

TUCK, William, Cpl.

Waterbury, Conn.
TYLER, S. L., 2d Lt.
Memphis, Tenn.

VANCE, George K., Cpl. Kokomo, Ind.

VAN HORN, Archie M., 2d Lt. Aurora, Ill.

VAN HOOSE, Hershell, Sgt. Atlanta, Ga.

VIEAU, Erne, Sgt.

San Francisco, Calif.

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VON BLON, Philip, R.S.M. Upper Sandusky, Ohio. VROOM, Clifford H., R.S.M.

Exeter, N. H.

WALDO, Richard H., Capt. New York City.

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WALTY, Francis J., R.S.M. Dorranceton, Pa.

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WARLICK, Bernie C., Cpl. Dallas, Tex.

WARNER, Clifford T., Sgt. Danville, Ind.

WATSON, Joseph H., Cpl.

Lamar, S. C. WATSON, Mark S., Maj., F.A.

Chicago, Ill. WEESNER, Edward J., Sgt.

Clayton, Ind. WEINSTEIN, Jacob, Sgt. Brooklyn, N. Y.

WESSELLS, G. W., Jr., Sgt. 1st Cl. Jersey City, N. J.

WHITE, Egbert G., R.S.M. Pittsburgh, Pa.

WHITE, Ernest F., Cpl. Atlanta, Ga.

WHITTLE, William E., R.S.M. Chattanooga, Tenn.

WIENER, Robert, Cpl. Cambridge, Mass.

WILLIAMS, Oscar G., Sgt. Temple, Tex.

WILLOUGHBY, Geoffrey, Pvt. 1st Cl.

WILSON, Albert C., R.S.M. Los Angeles, Calif.

WILSON, Howard M., 2d Lt., Inf. Waco, Tex.

WILSON, Leo M., Pvt. Chicago, Ill.

WINKEL, Raymond, Cpl. Indianapolis, Ind.

WINSTON, Leo A., Sgt. Menomonee, Wis.

WINTERICH, John T., Pvt. Providence, R. I.

WOOLLCOTT, Alexander, Sgt. Phalanx, N. J.

WORLEY, Nathaniel T., Sgt.

Washington, D. C WRENCH, George P., Cpl.

Thomasville, Ga. YOUNG, King D., Pvt. 1st Cl. Filer, Idaho.

ZIMMERMAN, Chas. W., Cpl. Boston, Mass.

DECEASED

McINTOSH, Carl D., Pvt., Suresnes Cemctery. Los Angeles, Calif.

BAWDEN, David R., Sgt. 1st. Cl. Cemetery Detroit, Mich.

ROLAND, Homer G., Cpl., Suresnes Cemetery. Des Moines, Iowa.

MILTENBERGER, W. F., 1st Lt., Suresnes

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